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Pasadena, CA 91109

October 15, 2003

Dear SeaWinds on Midori-II Investigator:

NASA's SeaWinds Project is producing consistently processed SeaWinds on Midori-II Operational Standard Data Products for use by Earth science researchers and other interested parties. These uniformly processed global radar backscatter and ocean vector wind data products cover measurements from April 10, 2003 (Midori-II rev 1667) to the present. Products will continue to be generated with newly acquired measurements, assuring a continuous and consistent data set for scientific analyses.

Products address Ocean Vector Winds Science Team (OVWST) recommendations based on their calibration/ validation (Cal/Val) analyses and initial scientific evaluations of the Interim SeaWinds data. The Level 2A product includes 13.4 GHz brightness temperature estimates derived from SeaWinds measurements. Backscatter measurements are ice-flagged using weekly National Ice Center ice edge data to be consistent with QuikSCAT. Level 2B product vector wind data uses an improved "MUDH" table to produce rain-flag performance consistent with QuikSCAT. The Level 2B data also includes wind velocity estimates from the alternate ("DIRTH") enhanced wind retrieval algorithm. SeaWinds data and additional documentation is available from the PO.DAAC website at <http://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov/seawinds/>.

Products are being produced for newly acquired data and for historical data by reprocessing. Reprocessing of older data begins with the current data and is progressing backwards in the data set to rev 1667. *The data at Level 2A, Level 2B, and Level 3 are the only products affected by this reprocessing.* It is expected that reprocessing of the older data will be completed and delivered to PO.DAAC by the end of October, 2003.

As Ocean Vector Winds Science Team members, you are expected to help quantify the accuracy of products, isolate and report systematic problems, and propose processing refinements. Previously produced Interim SeaWinds data products should no longer be used as the basis for scientific investigations and publications. The SeaWinds Project continues to solicit your input on the released data products and encourages your participation in any future Science Team meetings.

Sincerely,

Kent H. Kellogg
SeaWinds Project Manager